

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 12269 181855Z

45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00

MC-02 EUR-25 AF-10 DRC-01 /161 W

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P 181745Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4804

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 12269

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, LE, PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTING ON ARMY RESUPPLY

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF LEBANESE MINISTRY INFORMATION HAS DRAWN EMBASSY'S ATTENTION TO LARGE NUMBER PRESS REPORTS EMANATING FROM WASHINGTON AND ATTRIBUTED TO USG OFFICIALS WHICH EMPHASIZE EXTENT (AND IN SOME CASES SPECIFIC) WEAPONS IN OUR ARMS RESUPPLY TO ISRAEL.

2. HE POINTS OUT THAT DESPITE BEST EFFORTS GOL, THERE IS NO WAY KEEP THIS OUT OF LOCAL PRESS. OBVIOUSLY, IT INTENSIFIES IMAGE OF ONE-SIDED USG POLICY, THEREBY ADDING TO LOCAL AGITATION WHICH GOL DOING ITS BEST TO CALM. HE ASKED WHETHER ANYTHING COULD BE DONE TO CUT BACK ON THIS SORT OF STORY.

COMMENT: IT SEEMS TO US THAT THERE IS VALID POINT HERE. OUR TRADITIONAL AND COMMENDABLE POLICY OF REFUSING COMMENT ON DETAILS OF OUR ARMY SUPPLY TO MIDDLE EAST SEEMS TO HAVE GIVEN WAY, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY, TO ONE OF CONSIDERABLE VERBOSITY. OBVIOUSLY THESE CONTINUING LEAKS PLAY INTO HANDS OF THOSE WORKING AGAINST OUR INTERESTS IN AREA. MOREOVER, IT INFLAMES ALREADY ANTI-AMERICAN EMOTIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 18 OCT 1973
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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